

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability July 2025 – June 2026



At first, many improvements will happen behind the scenes, like upgrading equipment and building better systems to track materials, so it may take a few years to see changes. But soon, Oregon will have a stronger, more effective recycling system that's easier to use, better for the environment, and fairer for workers and communities across the state.

**Learn more at [www.portland.gov/RecyclingModernization](http://www.portland.gov/RecyclingModernization).**

**[www.portland.gov/GarbageDay](http://www.portland.gov/GarbageDay)**







# QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



See the full list of what's allowed  
[www.portland.gov/recycle](http://www.portland.gov/recycle)

**Recycle**

Plastic bottles (caps OK if screwed on), round containers, buckets, and rigid plant pots. Must be 2x2" or larger, empty & dry.

Flattened cardboard. Paper, mail, magazines & non-metallic gift wrap. Food & beverage cartons, empty & dry. Empty pizza delivery boxes, minimal grease OK.

Metal food cans, paint & aerosol cans, empty & dry. Scrap metal under 18" & 10 lbs.

No plastic bags, wrap or lids, glass, coffee cups, to-go containers

**Compost**

Meat, cheese, seafood, bones & eggshells. Bread, pasta, grains, nuts, beans, fruit, vegetables & coffee grounds. Spoiled food & plate scrapings.

Weeds, leaves, grass, flowers, house plants, plant clippings, pumpkins. Branches under 4" thick & 36" long.

Food-soiled pizza delivery boxes, paper towels, and napkins. Paper coffee filters & tea bags.

No pet waste, dirt, rocks, ashes, lumber, to-go containers

**Garbage**

Plastic bags, plastic lids & plastic-padded mailers. Wires, hoses, chains & electric cords. Disposable gloves & masks.

To-go containers, cutlery, cups, lids & straws (paper, plastic & "compostable"). Frozen food boxes.

Bag pet waste, cat litter, diapers, ashes, sawdust & broken glass. Put fats, oils & grease in sealed container.

No TVs, computers, batteries, paint, pesticides, flammables

**Glass**

Put in glass-only bin. Glass bottles & jars, empty & dry. All colors of glass. OK to leave labels on.

Redeem deposit bottles at BottleDrop Centers or recycle at the curb.

No lids, caps, ceramics, lightbulbs, broken glass

**Batteries**

(Do not tape batteries labeled alkaline)

Batteries must fit in a sealed 1-quart plastic bag.

1. Tape ends of batteries (unless labeled alkaline). Use clear tape.
2. Put all batteries in a clear, zip-sealed 1-quart bag.
3. Place bag on top of glass.

No batteries larger than a 1-quart bag, embedded or damaged batteries, vape pens

**Other Waste**

Not sure how to get rid of something? Call 503-234-3000 or use [oregonmetro.gov/askmetro](http://oregonmetro.gov/askmetro) to find options for safe disposal, recycling, or donation.

**Motor Oil**

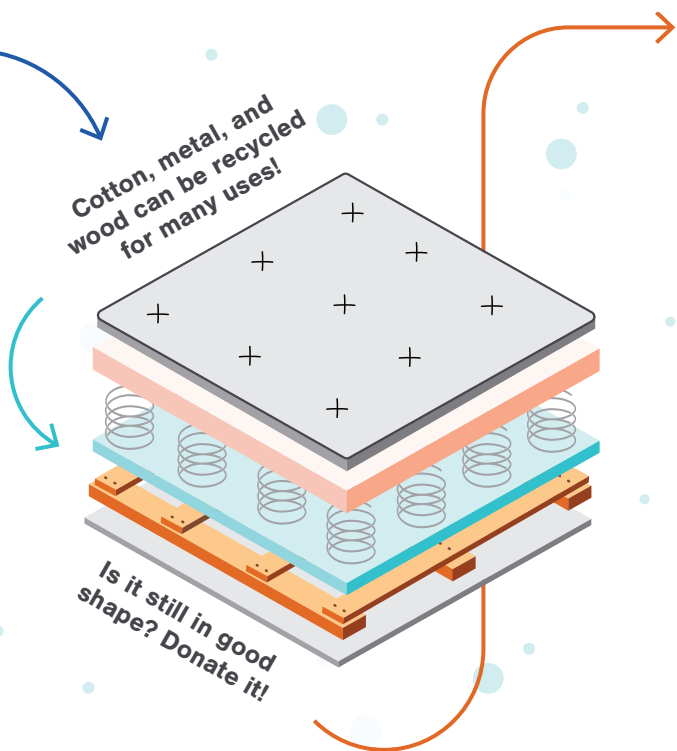
Put in a leak-proof clear plastic jug with cap. Place next to bins.

# Recycle your old mattress for free!

Thanks to a new Oregon law, mattresses and box springs can be recycled for free at participating drop-off locations.

Did you know that up to 75% of a mattress can be recycled into new, useful products? Metal and steel are recycled into rebar and other construction materials. Cotton is repurposed as home insulation. And wood frames are turned into mulch or used as fuel for energy.

Find a drop-off site near you:  
[www.byebymattress.com/oregon](http://www.byebymattress.com/oregon)



# Even better: Donate it!

If your mattress is clean, dry, and in good shape, consider donating it.

Community Warehouse, a Portland nonprofit, accepts gently used mattresses to provide to community members overcoming adversity. In just one year, they redistributed over 3,000 mattresses and countless better nights of sleep.

Mattresses must be in usable condition and free of stains, rips, odors, and pet hair. Community Warehouse has three drop-off locations and offers pickup for a small fee.

Learn more:  
[www.communitywarehouse.org](http://www.communitywarehouse.org)



## THE BUREAU OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

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## FIND INSIDE >>>>

**NEW: Mattress recycling!**  
Plus, a recycling guide and 12-month garbage schedule.

# Portland Curbsider

## Thank you, Portland!

You recycled over 20 tons of batteries last year.

By safely recycling batteries in your glass bin, you prevent fires in trucks and recycling centers.

Remember: Put batteries in a sealed quart-size bag on top of your glass bin. Some batteries must be taped for safety.

Learn more at:  
[www.portland.gov/batteries](http://www.portland.gov/batteries)

## Garbage service options and rates

Need a bigger or smaller garbage bin? You have four sizes to choose from. Contact your garbage company to switch sizes.

What you pay depends on your garbage bin size. Your bill pays for the trucks and drivers who pick up your bins, the safe disposal of garbage, and turning recycling and compost into new products. Rates are reviewed yearly to keep up with service costs. New rates start July 1.

Find service options and costs at:  
[www.portland.gov/garbage-rates](http://www.portland.gov/garbage-rates)

